

Dracut Historical Commission Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 19, 2016

Present:

Dave Paquin, Chairman

Bob Kohanski, Asst. Chairman

Harvey Gagnon

Louise Tremblay

Linda Kawa

Marc Gosselin

D. Paquin
Robert W. Kohanski
Louise Tremblay
Linda Kawa
Marc Gosselin

Minutes:

Chairman Paquin called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, at the Historic Building, 1660 Lakeview Ave.

Linda Kawa made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 20, 2016 meeting,

Discussion- Harvey Gagnon wanted to make a point of clarification. He explained to the board, on the third page under the 324 Broadway discussion, we should strike the word never and change it to rarely.

Mr. Gagnon explained we have had some other people come before for the board with their demo permit requests.

Linda Kawa made a motion to change the word from never to rarely.

Robert Kohanski seconded the original motion. The motion passed.

Community Input:

None

Betsy Ware: Historical Survey- Consultant John Clemson:

Ms. Ware introduced Mr. John Clemson, who is the consultant hired by the committee for the historical surveys.

Ms. Ware handed out an attachment for the Scope of Work to be expected. Ms. Ware explained that the first phase of the work was due October 21, 2016, but the contracts have just been signed recently. With that being said, Mr. Clemson and his team have a three to four week extension on the first phase. After that is done the Commission will be meeting with the consultants to review the first phase of the work and make decisions to move forward.

Linda Kawa asked Ms. Ware if the contract will still end on, June 30th, 2017 with the extension of the three to four weeks for phase one.

Ms. Ware explained, yes, only that was extended, not the contract. The contract date will still expire on June 30, 2017.

Mr. Paquin asked Mr. Clemson if there are going to be progress payments throughout the phases.

Ms. Ware stated that on page 15 of the attachment, it breakdowns the payments, and shows as follows:

Phase I	\$2500.00
Phase II	\$4000.00
Phase III	\$20,000.00
Phase IV	\$3,500.00

Total Cost \$30,000.00 (not to exceed)

Mr. Paquin asked Mr. Clemson, who will be receiving the bills.

Ms. Ware explained that Mr. Clemson will send her the invoices, then she will make a recommendation to Mr. Paquin for the Commission to authorize the payments.

Mr. Clemson explained to the board, he and his team are looking forward to working with the committee. Mr. Clemson explained the structures of the three phases of work;

1. To conduct a community wide survey to assess and document approximately 136 (One-Hundred and Thirty-Six) selected cultural and architectural resources, following Massachusetts Historical Commission (MRC) survey standards and methodology.
2. To identify contexts for National Register evaluation and to apply the National Register criteria to all resources identified in the survey.
3. To submit to MRC a list of individual properties and/or districts that are recommended for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

Mr. Paquin stated to Mr. Clemson, anything you need we will be happy to help you. Mr. Gagnon explained, they have a lot of old records.

Ms. Ware explained she has brought Mr. Clemson around to the Town Clerks Office, the Assessor's Office, and the Library so he can get resources from them also.

Ms. Ware stated that Claire Dempsey, from the group will be working here in Dracut a lot.

Ms. Ware also explained that part of the first phase will be making a bibliography of the information that is being used for the survey.

Mr. Clemson stated, he will be meeting with Mr. Paquin, Mr. Gagnon, John Briscoe and Bud Paquin tomorrow at the Historical Building to look over things.

John Briscoe asked Ms. Ware how far back they are going for the inventory of the houses. Mr. Clemson and Ms. Ware, explained until 1732.
Mr. Gosselin, explained to Mr. Clemson another good resource would be Richard Howe, who works at the registry of deeds in the Lowell court house.

Ms. Ware explained that she and Mr. Clemson went into Boston and met with Mass Historical. Mr. Paquin, explained to Ms. Ware that it was too late for him to go this time when he got the invite, but would like to go next time.
Ms. Ware stated, they will be going back the week after Thanksgiving.

Mr. Clemson, thanked the committee for their time.

BBF:

Mr. Paquin explained to the board, that the BBFC had a site visit and public hearing for the property last week. Mr. Paquin explained there was a lot of feedback and good ideas from the public hearing. The BBFC will be going over the input at their next meeting.

Mr. Paquin explained he has talked to Ken Pappas, who has done some area viewing of the Dracut library and Shaw Farm, the viewing is done with a drone. Mr. Paquin had contacted Mr. Pappas after he reached out, and put a request out to see if anybody has any ideas for him to take area pictures of.

Mr. Paquin explained, he would like to get this done before Town Meeting, to show the public. Mr. Pappas was scheduled to do the area viewing this past week, but had to cancel due to the weather.

Mr. Gosselin, explained if the Town does get the cell tower, to make sure they get the highest amount for the lease. Whoever the first carrier is, such as T-Mobile or Sprint, etc. They can turn around and cut their cost by leasing to other carriers. The Town gets nothing off that part of the lease, it goes to the first carrier.

Mr. Paquin explained that the BBFC has two articles on the Town Meeting Warrant for BBF.

Old Business:

324 Broadway Rd:

Chairman, Dave Paquin, explained to the board this request never got to him until yesterday. The reason being, is the Building Dept had his email address wrong. Mr. Paquin stated his email address got hacked and that caused some problems with the emails being sent correctly.

Demo:

Marc Gosselin, made a motion to ratify the demolition permit for 324 Broadway Rd. Louise Tremblay, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

Marc Gosselin made a motion to explore the options with Ms. Ware, to have a new By Law written for a demolition delay, between now and the next Fall Town Meeting.

Mr. Gosselin explained, the committee had brought this up a while ago. Mr. Gosselin explained, it would be good to get the word out on these buildings before they are slated to come down. A lot of work goes into trying to save them. Mr. Gagnon agreed.

Under Discussion:

Ms. Tremblay explained, that a lot of work goes onto trying to save these old buildings.

Linda Kawa, stated, we are just part of the process right now, with the sign offs. It would be good to add a paragraph to the sign off sheet.

Mr. Paquin, suggested to Mr. Gosselin, perhaps we should wait until the Historical Survey is done. Then, we would then have a complete list of the Historic guidelines and property's.

Mr. Gosselin agreed with Mr. Paquin and tabled his motion until after the survey is done.

Other Old Business:

Mr. Gosselin stated that Ms. Ware has Wayne LaMarche on the Press Release for the Historical Survey.

Mr. Paquin stated he will have Ms. Ware take him off the document.

Mr. Gosselin asked Mr. Paquin if he has heard from Mr. Lamarche at all. Mr. Paquin stated, no. He still has had no response from emails and letters that he has sent him asking him for his resignation from the board.

Ms. Tremblay explained she believes he is back in town.

Mr. Paquin explained his appointment came from the Selectmen and they also are aware of him being absent.

Treasurers Report:

The Treasurers report was read out loud and passed out to the members.

Treasurer's Report was read along with the following bills which were paid by the Treasurer:

Gas-- \$24.58 September

Landscaping--- \$110.00 September

Electric--- October \$264.48

DWSD – October \$30.87

Linda Kawa made a motion to approve payment of these invoices. This was seconded by Mark Gosselin, Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Paquin explained to the board, he has a bill for the carpeting that was done at the Historical Society, in all three rooms for a price of \$4,288.88 (Four-thousand, two-hundred and eighty-eight dollars and eighty-eight cents).

Mr. Paquin explained to the board that Dracut Old Home Day has generously agreed to pay \$2,500.00 (Two-thousand five hundred) dollars towards that bill, as a donation.

Mr. Paquin explained that the Historical Commission and the Historical Society where going to split the bill, but the Historical Commission has already gotten the building painted and taken that out of the budget, which was \$3,000.00 (Three-Thousand Dollars).

Mr. Paquin explained that, the Historical Society took this project on, knowing they were going to pay the whole amount, that being said, and with the \$2500.00 (Two-thousand, five-hundred dollars) donation from Dracut Old Home Day, they have decided to pay the rest of the bill.

Mr. Paquin, wanted to recognize the very generous donation of \$2500.00(Two-thousand, five-hundred dollars) from Dracut Old Home Day.

Next Meeting:

November 16, 2016

Linda Kawa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm, seconded by Louise Tremblay. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marylee Enos, Recording Secretary

